

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CEIVED

FEB 0 9 2004

In re: Patent Application of Edward T. Buford, III

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Serial No: 09/912,692

Group Art Unit: 3747

#10

Filed: 7/26/2001

Examiner: R. Chin

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Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20321

Please accept the Applicant's Response to First Office Action (First Amendment) along with

Request for Extension of Time and Check # 12086 for \$55.00 filing fee in the above action.

Respectfully Submitted,

NIGEL C. SCOTT, Ésquire

Pat. Bar # 27,385

Attorney for Applicant

7306 Georgia Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20012-1617

(202) 882-5770

(202) 722-0040 Fax

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Accordingly it is respectfully requested that the Response to the First Office Action and Amendment to the Claims be accepted for filing.

Respectfully Submitted,

NIGEL L. SCOTT, Esquire

Pat. Bar # 27,385

Attorney for Applicant

7306 Georgia Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20012-1617

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Sir:

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION (FIRST AMENDMENT)

This is in response to the First Office Action mailed September 30, 2003 in respect of the above-identified patent application:

SPECIFICATION

Based upon the discussions between Applicant and counsel, the two drawings labeled "4A" and "5A" are now considered unnecessary for the allowance of the invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that drawings "4A" and "5A" be withdrawn.

Additionally, in light of the withdrawal of drawings "4A" and "5A" no changes will be made to the Specification.

<u>CLAIMS</u>

In the subject Office Action, claims 1-5 and claim 8 of the application have been rejected based upon claims 35 USC 112. Claims 1-5 have also been rejected based upon

In repatent atom of

In re patent attion of Edward T. Buford, III

Serial No. 09/912,692

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This acknowledges receipt of the following:

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Group 3700

[X] First Amendment

[] Revised Drawing

[X] Fee in the amount of \$55.00 Check No. 12086

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the Applicant's Response to First Office Action (First Amendment) was mailed to the United States Department of Commerce Patents and Trademarks, Office Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20031 this 23rd day January, 2004.

Nigel L. Scott, Esquire

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